

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:102  
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2006  
GROWTH RATE OF FOOD PRODUCTION  
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Singh Shri Uday

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) Whether the growth rate of food production has failed to keep pace with the rate of growth in population;
- (b) If so, whether the stagnation in production has led to food shortage in the country;
- (c) If so, whether the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices has urged the Government to prepare a road map to improve yield and boost food production; and
- (d) If so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 102 DUE FOR REPLY ON 31ST JULY, 2006.

(a):No, Sir. The average growth rate of foodgrains production in the country during the years 2000-01 to 2005-06 is 2.1 per cent whereas the average growth rate of population during this period is 1.6 per cent.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) while recommending Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of major agricultural commodities also makes recommendations for improving production and productivity of various crops from time to time.

(d): Several schemes and programmes for enhancing food production and productivity are under implementation as a consequence of which production increases are seen in crops such as rice, coarse grains and oilseeds as shown below:

Crop Production

(Million Tonnes)		
Crop	2000-01	2005-06
(4th Advance Estimates)		
Rice	84.98	91.04
Coarse Grains	31.08	34.67
Oilseeds	18.44	27.73

The fluctuation in yield of food crops such as wheat are being addressed through expansion of area, enhancing seed replacement rate and propagation of high temperature tolerant high yielding varieties. Similarly in the case of pulses, steps like enhancing seed replacement rate, promotion of ridge planting, encouraging intercropping of short duration pulse crops, are taken. Schemes under Macro Management of Agriculture, Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) for Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals, and Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) are also on going.